

## GEORGE SHAW COOK'S LECTURE

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now every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good" (Gen. 1:31).

### Mrs. Eddy's God.

The universal, complete expression of divine Mind, comprising all that exists by way of creation, necessarily includes spiritual man. This man reflects perfectly the infinite being called God. And this statement accords with the description of creation in the first chapter of Genesis, which says that God made man in "his own image" and after His likeness. If God made man in His image, it is certain that man must be exactly like His creator. When we recall that the one only cause is divine Mind, spirit, life, love, then we see that man in the image of his creator must be spiritual, eternal, living and good, like his divine Principle.

### The Unity of Good.

Reviewing our discussion from this point, we see that we have, first, a perfect good that is infinite Spirit, or Mind. Next, we have a perfectly good universe which is spiritual or mental, and consists of those ideas that are perfect and good. Then we have a perfectly good man included in this spiritual universe as the reflection or image of his infinite Father-Mother divine Mind.

### The Appearance of Evil.

But, you say, what of a material universe and mortal man? What of the existence into which mortals seem to have been born and out of which they appear to pass away in sickness and infirmity, even unto death? What of sin and suffering and disease and death? What of evil and matter? We shall not ignore them, although we have already seen why in the best sense they cannot be real for the simple reason that they are not good. No one believes that evil is good, although he may try to make himself believe that in some way it has been provided for his benefit. We have seen that "that was not so." Evil must be like the spirit. Evil is not like good; Matter is not like Spirit. Therefore whatever bad disposition is made of evil and matter, they cannot reasonably be attributed to the one good, spiritual cause.

### Causality of Evil.

Christian Science in explaining the moral nature of evil first denies that matter, being non-intelligent, cannot be the cause of evil. It cannot be itself evil, but the universe, as it is, is afraid of matter, and, since God cannot submit to fear upon earth or in equity. He cannot have created evil. Therefore He cannot know of it. Christian Science, however, makes the material assertion that evil, being often opposed to good and totally unlike good, does not exist in god as the manifestation or effect of evil. Christian scientists do not, however, ignore the fact of the existence of a real human experience. They understand that in this sense it must be recognized as a false claim to be repudiated and for this reason it can be demonstrated to be what it really is—nothing. They understand that the scientific teaching of sin and its consequences, of destruction, comes through a lost or true spiritual idea of god as being of power over than to be helpful with that.

### Causality of Matter.

Closely associated with the thought of evil is the thought of matter. In fact, they cannot be dissociated. Which one is the other still seems to be found. Mrs. Eddy's teaching that matter is unreal and that what we perceive to be material substance is but the product of the human mind, is slowly, but surely, being recognized by material scientists as the cause of the confusion and lack of understanding of the true nature of matter that has existed for so long a time.

### Christian Science and Matter.

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### Christian Science and Disease.

Most of the "experts" think that disease is the thought of disease. In fact, they cannot be dissociated. Which one is the other still seems to be found. Mrs. Eddy's teaching that disease is unreal and that what we perceive to be material substance is but the product of the human mind, is slowly, but surely, being recognized by material scientists as the cause of the confusion and lack of understanding of the true nature of disease that has existed for so long a time.

### Christian Science and Health.

Most of the "experts" think that health is the thought of health. In fact, they cannot be dissociated. Which one is the other still seems to be found. Mrs. Eddy's teaching that health is unreal and that what we perceive to be material substance is but the product of the human mind, is slowly, but surely, being recognized by material scientists as the cause of the confusion and lack of understanding of the true nature of health that has existed for so long a time.

used by Mrs. Eddy, as the best term available, to describe the false sense of intelligence and life that claims to exist as the antipode of God. But she explains that the real Mind and creator is not mortal, but immortal, not human, but divine. Thus the world of sense-perception is left without a divine cause. The troublesome thing called matter is left outside the realm of divine reality. It is found to have no real authority, and no substantial substance. Of this feeling, temporary sense of substance Paul said: "The things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal" (1 Cor. 15:1).

### Pain and Suffering Blasted.

Because the mortal, material body is not conscious, it cannot apart from the human mind, be painful or sore or sick. The human body separate from the human mind can have no sensation. It is obvious, then, that the sense of pain and suffering lie in the human mind and not in the body. Many have doubtless had the experience of dreaming that they were in pain when their body was in what is regarded as normal state. Christian Science shows that all suffering and disease is a dream from which the dreamer needs to be awakened. The first step in the direction of freedom from this evil dream of disease and mortality is to know that these evils are not of God. God never made anything that is not good. Furthermore, God is always good, and cannot make use of evil for any purpose or tolerate it's existence in any form.

The Christian Scientist is willing to admit that suffering and disease seem to exist, and that matter often seems quite real and very painful. He does not deny that human sense is real, but seeks to correct this false sense of things with the truth of science. He finds that by an process of substituting the truth for the false, the sense of pain and suffering which is called sickness, as surely as he can, by a similar mortal process, feels and overcomes the temptation to evil. Evil, pain and disease are without divine authority, and their existence and existence even seem to exist to me who is fully conscious of the ultimate presence of good.

### Why Suffering Should Be Opposed.

This question is sometimes asked, since the Bible contains a record of human suffering, why does Christian Science, which is said to be founded on the teachings of Jesus, teach that suffering should be avoided?

Christian Science is a continuation or rediscovery of primitive Christianity. It is based upon the life and words of Christ Jesus, who was the founder of Christianity. Christian Science, however, accepts Jesus as the greater Christian. This question arises: What was the attitude of Christ Jesus toward human suffering? A study of the life and words of Jesus will show that while the attitude of Jesus toward the sufferer was one of great compassion, the attitude of orthodoxy apparently requires no suffering and those so-called Christians. He believed that he came not to destroy but to fulfil the same as in other words to the will of God Father. God, who is the source of all evil, is evil, and the teacher, not the pupil, is evil. Therefore, Jesus did not subject us to destruction, pain or contumacy. Fully and perfectly we are made upright right and free from destruction, pain or contumacy.

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